

Official Statement

FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
FRESNO COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 169
 (Assessment District for a Portion of the Fresno Metropolitan Area)



*Fresno county -- Economic cond.
 Bonds -- Calif. -- Fresno co.
 Public works -- Finance -- Calif. --
 Fresno co.*

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\$5,397,480.13

Improvement Bonds

Issued pursuant to the Improvement Bond Act of 1915

Bids to be received up until 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 28, 1978
 in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors, Room 301,
 Hall of Records, Fresno, California 93721.



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FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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Professional Services

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Civil Engineers

McGlasson & Associates
Civil Engineers

Blair & Church Engineering
Civil Engineers

Orrick, Herrington, Rowley & Sutcliffe
Bond Counsel

Stone & Youngberg Municipal Financing Consultants, Inc.
San Francisco and Los Angeles
Financing Consultants

THE DATE OF THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS FEBRUARY 7, 1978



FRESNO COUNTY

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FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93721

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The purpose of this Official Statement is to supply information to prospective bidders on, and buyers of, \$5,397,480.13 principal amount of Fresno County Improvement District No. 169 Bonds, proposed to be issued by the County of Fresno, California, pursuant to the Improvement Bond Act of 1915.

The material contained in this Official Statement was prepared by Stone & Youngberg Municipal Financing Consultants, Inc., in the capacity of financing consultants to the County; and the firm will receive compensation from the County contingent upon the sale and delivery of the Bonds.

The Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract with the purchasers of the Bonds. Statements contained in this Official Statement which involve estimates, forecasts or matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so described herein, are intended solely as such and are not to be construed as representations of fact.

The legal opinion approving the validity of the Bonds will be furnished by Orrick, Herrington, Rowley & Sutcliffe, San Francisco, Bond Counsel. The scope of Bond Counsel's employment in connection with the review of this Official Statement has been limited to reviewing the statements of law and legal conclusions set forth herein under the caption "The Bonds".

No dealer, broker, salesman or other person has been authorized by the County to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained herein and, if given or made, such other information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorized by any of the foregoing. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of any offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

The execution and distribution of this Official Statement have been authorized by the County.

Dated: February 7, 1978

JOHN R. DONALDSON, *Chairman*
Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

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Location of Fresno County.

INTRODUCTION

The County of Fresno, California is located in the heart of the state's San Joaquin Valley. The City of Fresno, its County seat, is located near the geographic center of the State of California, 222 miles north of Los Angeles and 183 miles southeast of San Francisco. Fresno County annually ranks as the first in the nation in terms of agricultural production, in addition to being a principal commercial, industrial and transportation for a six-county area. This six-county area includes Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks.

The site of the proposed Fresno County Improvement District No. 169 project is an unincorporated residential urban area within the metropolitan region of the City of Fresno. The Assessment District comprises more than 800 acres.

The project consists of approximately 26 miles of collector sewer lines, 360 manholes and 1,850 laterals to property lines. Construction bids were received on November 22, November 29 and December 13, 1977 for the three construction schedules for Phase I, the installation of the sewer collection system. Bids for Phase III, the concrete street improvements, are expected to be received late in 1978; and bids for Phase II, the permanent street restoration, are expected to be received in mid-1979. The low bid on the first two construction schedules for Phase I was submitted by R. L. Thibodo and the low bid on the third schedule for Phase I was submitted by Valley Engineers, Incorporated. The estimated cost of the project is \$6,411,565.59. Cash collections were \$649,689.09 and credits from the City of Fresno were \$364,396.37, and the amount of bonds to be issued is \$5,397,480.13.

The District consists of 1997 parcels in an unincorporated residential urban area within the metropolitan region of the City of Fresno. The District is approximately 810 acres in size and is located in the northwestern sector of the City's metropolitan area.

1871 parcels in the District receive benefit from the improvements and were assessed. Of the 1743

parcels within the Fresno County Improvement District No. 169 which have unpaid assessments, more than 1650, or approximately ninety-five percent, are improved. Of the parcels with unpaid assessments, more than 1550, or approximately ninety percent, are improved with single-family residences.

For parcels within the District which have unpaid assessments, the 1977/78 assessed valuation of land is \$5,281,975, and the assessed valuation of improvements is \$20,237,825. Based on a ratio of assessed value to full value of 25 percent, for parcels with unpaid assessments the full value of land and improvements are thus estimated to be \$21,127,900 and \$80,951,300, respectively, for a total estimated full value of \$102,079,200, resulting in a value:lien ratio of nearly nineteen to one.

Under the provisions of the Improvement Bond Act of 1915, installments of principal and interest sufficient to meet annual bond service are to be collected on the regular County tax bills sent to owners of property against which there are unpaid assessments. These annual installments are to be paid into the Redemption Fund, which will be held by the County Treasurer and used to pay bond principal and interest as they become due. The installments billed against each property each year represent a pro rata share of the total principal and interest coming due that year, based on the percentage which the unpaid assessment against that property bears to the total of unpaid assessments in connection with the project.

In the event of delinquencies in the payment of the property owners' installments, the Board of Supervisors of Fresno County, in the absence of any other bidder, is obligated, by deposits from any available funds into the Redemption Fund, to purchase land at delinquent assessment sales and to pay future delinquent installments of assessments and interest thereon until the land is resold or redeemed.

If the County does not have sufficient funds for this purpose, it is required to levy a tax in any amount, up to a maximum of 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, in order to raise the amount required to be transferred to the Redemption Fund to cover delinquencies. The tax must be levied against all taxable properties in the County. The obligation to levy the tax, if required, continues each year until bond principal and interest are paid. Based on the County's 1977/78 assessed valuation (\$2,107,972,838), the maximum tax rate which would be required to be levied against all taxable property in the County in order to raise an amount equal to the maximum estimated annual bond service is \$0.0231 per \$100 assessed valuation.

THE BONDS

Authority for Issuance

The improvement proceedings for Fresno County Improvement District No. 169 (hereinafter referred to as the "Assessment District") are being conducted pursuant to the Municipal Improvement Act of 1913 and in accordance with the Resolution of Intention adopted by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors on November 1, 1977. The Bonds will represent the unpaid assessments levied against private property in the Assessment District in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Improvement Act of 1913, and will be issued pursuant to the Improvement Bond Act of 1915.

Terms of Sale

Bids for the purchase of the Bonds will be received by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno at or before 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 28, 1978, at the Board Room of the Board of Supervisors, Room 301, Hall of Records, Fresno, California 93721. The Notice of Sale, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on February 7, 1978, provides for a maximum interest rate of eight percent (8%) and also provides that no bid for less than ninety-eight percent (98%) of par will be considered. Further details as to the terms of sale are included in the Notice of Sale Improvement Bonds, a copy of which is enclosed with this Official Statement as originally distributed.

Description of the Bonds

The \$5,397,480.13 principal amount of Bonds will be dated March 5, 1978, will be numbered from 1 through 1183 and will be issued in denominations of \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000, except for Bond Number 1, which will be issued in the denomination of \$2,480.13. The first 9.9 months' interest on the Bonds will be payable on January 2, 1979. Interest will be payable

semiannually thereafter on July 2 and January 2 of each year. Both principal and interest are payable at the office of the County Treasurer in Fresno, California. The Bonds will mature on July 2 in each of the years and in the amounts shown in the Schedule of Maturities on the following page.

Redemption of Bonds

Any bond may be called for redemption prior to maturity on any January 2 or July 2 upon payment of 105 percent of par value, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. No interest will accrue on a bond beyond the January 2 or July 2 on which said bond is called for redemption. Notice of redemption must be given by publication, personal service or registered mail at least 60 days prior to the redemption date. The determination as to which bond or bonds are to be called will be made by the Treasurer of Fresno County in accordance with Part 11 of the Improvement Bond Act of 1915.

Registration

The Bonds will be issued in coupon form, registrable only as to both principal and interest, and after being registered are not subject to discharge from registration.

Legal Opinion

All proceedings in connection with the issuance of the Bonds are subject to the approval of Orrick, Herrington, Rowley & Sutcliffe, San Francisco, California, Bond Counsel for Fresno County in connection with the Assessment District project.

The unqualified opinion of Orrick, Herrington, Rowley & Sutcliffe attesting to the validity of the Bonds will be supplied free of charge to the original purchasers of the Bonds and will be printed on the Bonds.

Tax Exempt Status

In the opinion of Bond Counsel interest on the Bonds is exempt from all present federal income taxes and from State of California personal income taxes under existing statutes, regulations and court decisions.

Purpose of the Proceeds of the Bonds

Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, together with cash collections and contributions, will be used to finance the construction of public improvements as described in "The Project" section of this Official Statement.

SCHEDULE OF MATURITIES

Maturity Year July 2	Total Principal Maturing	Amounts per Denomination		
		\$500	\$1,000	\$5,000
1979	\$ 57,480.13	\$-	\$ 2,480.13 ¹	\$ 55,000
1980	160,000	-	-	160,000
1981	170,000	-	5,000	165,000
1982	180,000	-	5,000	175,000
1983	190,000	-	5,000	185,000
1984	200,000	-	5,000	195,000
1985	210,000	-	5,000	205,000
1986	225,000	-	5,000	220,000
1987	240,000	-	5,000	235,000
1988	250,000	1,000	4,000	245,000
1989	265,000	1,000	4,000	260,000
1990	285,000	1,000	4,000	280,000
1991	300,000	2,000	8,000	290,000
1992	320,000	1,000	4,000	315,000
1993	335,000	2,000	8,000	325,000
1994	355,000	1,000	4,000	350,000
1995	380,000	2,000	8,000	370,000
1996	400,000	1,000	4,000	395,000
1997	425,000	2,000	8,000	415,000
1998	450,000	1,000	4,000	445,000
Total	\$5,397,480.13	\$15,000	\$97,480.13	\$5,285,000

¹ A single bond in the principal amount of \$2,480.13 will mature in 1979.

Disposition of Surplus Funds

If any surplus funds remain after completion of the improvements, the Board of Supervisors may use such surplus for one or more of the following purposes: for the maintenance of the improvement; as a credit upon the assessment or any supplemental assessment; or an amount up to \$1,000 may be transferred to the general fund of the County.

Security of the Bonds

Under the provisions of the Improvement Bond Act of 1915, installments of principal and interest sufficient to meet annual bond service are to be collected on the regular county tax bills sent to owners of property against which there are unpaid assessments. These annual installments are to be paid into the Redemption Fund, which will be held by the County Treasurer and used to pay bond principal and interest as they become due. The installments billed against each property each year represent a pro rata share of the total principal and interest coming due that year, based on the percentage which the unpaid assessment against that property bears to the total of unpaid assessments in connection with the project.

In the event of delinquencies in the payment of the property owners' installments, the Board of Supervisors of Fresno County, in the absence of any other bidder, is obligated, by deposits from any available funds into the Redemption Fund, to purchase land at delinquent assessment sales and to pay future delinquent installments of assessments and interest thereon until the land is resold or redeemed.

If the County does not have sufficient funds for this purpose, it is required to levy a tax in any amount, up to a maximum of 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, in order to raise the amount required to be transferred to the Redemption Fund to cover delinquencies. The tax must be levied against all taxable properties in the County. The obligation to levy the tax, if required, continues each year until bond principal and interest are paid. Based on the County's 1977/78 assessed valuation (\$2,107,972,838), the maximum tax rate which would be required to be levied against all taxable property in the County in order to raise an amount equal to the maximum estimated annual bond service is \$0.0231 per \$100 assessed valuation.

The "Jarvis Initiative" - There have recently been several California legislative proposals containing provisions which would, in one form or another, place further limitations on the amount of property tax revenues received by local governments of the State. Although none of the proposals have been adopted, it is likely that some form of additional property tax revenue limitations may soon become law. However, because of the uncertainty as to the ultimate form of any such revenue limitation, the County is unable to know what, if any, will be the ultimate effect of any such revenue limitation on the financial affairs of the County.

A very severe and potentially disruptive form of tax revenue limitation is contained in an initiative constitutional amendment, commonly known as the "Jarvis Initiative". The Jarvis Initiative will appear on the statewide ballot in June, 1978, and if approved, will be effective commencing July 1, 1978. The office of the Attorney General of the State of California has, in accordance with applicable law, provided to the Secretary of State of the State of California the following summary of the Jarvis Initiative:

"PROPERTY TAX LIMITATION, INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Limits ad valorem taxes on real property to 1% of value except to pay indebtedness previously approved by voters. Establishes 1975-76 assessed valuation as base value of property for tax purposes. Limits annual increases in value. Provides for reassessment after sale, transfer, or construction. Requires 2/3 vote of Legislature to enact any change in state taxes designed to increase revenues. Prohibits imposition by state of new ad valorem, sales, or transaction taxes on real property. Authorizes specified local entities to impose special taxes except ad valorem, sales and transaction taxes on

real property. Financial Impact: Would result in the loss of local property tax revenues of \$7 billion to \$8 billion annually and a reduction in state costs of about \$700 million in 1978-79 and \$800 million annually thereafter."

It cannot be predicted whether or not the Jarvis Initiative will be approved by the voters nor can it be predicted whether or not the validity of the initiative will, if thereafter challenged, be upheld, in whole or in part, by the courts. Further, the County cannot make any predictions or give any assurances as to the exact ramifications of the Jarvis Initiative, if approved, upon the special tax relating to the Bonds herein offered for sale.

Further, the County cannot predict the exact effect of the Jarvis Initiative, if approved, upon the financial affairs of the County. The County can state, however, that the Jarvis Initiative could cause a severe decline in the property tax revenues of the County and that such a decline would require either a significant curtailment in the County's services or, in the alternative, substantial replacement revenues from the State or from some other source.

Eligibility for National Banks

A request has been made to the Comptroller of the Currency for a ruling that the Bonds are eligible for purchase, dealing in, underwriting and unlimited holding by national banks. The ruling is expected prior to the date of sale of the bonds.

Estimated Annual Bond Service

Table 1 on page 5 shows a schedule of estimated annual bond service for the Bonds, based on an estimated interest rate of six percent (6%).

Table 1**FRESNO COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 169****Estimated Annual Bond Service**

Year Ending July 2	Principal Outstanding	Estimated Interest at 6.00%	Principal Maturing July 2	Total Bond Service
1979	\$5,397,480.13	\$ 429,099.67 ¹	\$ 57,480.13	\$ 486,579.80
1980	5,340,000	320,400	160,000	480,400
1981	5,180,000	310,800	170,000	480,800
1982	5,010,000	300,600	180,000	480,600
1983	4,830,000	289,800	190,000	479,800
1984	4,640,000	278,400	200,000	478,400
1985	4,440,000	266,400	210,000	476,400
1986	4,230,000	253,800	225,000	478,800
1987	4,005,000	240,300	240,000	480,300
1988	3,765,000	225,900	250,000	475,900
1989	3,515,000	210,900	265,000	475,900
1990	3,250,000	195,000	285,000	480,000
1991	2,965,000	177,900	300,000	477,900
1992	2,665,000	159,900	320,000	479,900
1993	2,345,000	140,700	335,000	475,700
1994	2,010,000	120,600	355,000	475,600
1995	1,655,000	99,300	380,000	479,300
1996	1,275,000	76,500	400,000	476,500
1997	875,000	52,500	425,000	477,500
1998	450,000	27,000	450,000	477,000
TOTAL		\$4,175,799.67	\$5,397,480.13	\$9,573,279.80

¹ Represents interest for 15.9 months (1.325 years).

THE PROJECT

Project Description

The site of the proposed Improvement District No. 169 project is an unincorporated residential urban area within the metropolitan region of the City of Fresno. The Assessment District is comprised of more than 800 acres of land surrounded by the City of Fresno in the northwestern sector of the metropolitan area. The District is approximately 3 miles east of California Highway 99 and is essentially bounded by Shaw, Palm, Bullard and Marks Avenues.

The general objective of the project is to provide adequate sewage collection and treatment for the residents of the area by construction of a sanitary sewer collection system. Presently the residents of the Assessment District utilize septic tanks and leach fields for both domestic and commercial sewage disposal.

The project consists of the following: 1) construction of a sanitary sewer collection system, together with house lateral branches, manholes, fittings, etc.; 2) the acquisition of capacity in and the right to use and connect to existing sewage treatment plant facilities and mains of the City of Fresno; 3) the acquisition of easements; 4) the restoration of streets by construction of a permanent street overlay in various locations; and 5) the construction and installation of concrete curbs, gutters and driveway approaches in various locations.

The project will be completed in phases. Phase I is the sanitary sewer construction. Phase II is the restoration of streets within the District by construction of a permanent street overlay in the areas of the sewer construction. Phase III is the construction and installation of concrete curbs, gutters and driveway approaches, where not existing, in various locations.

The project consists of approximately 26 miles of collector sewer lines, 360 manholes, and 1850 laterals to property lines. Ultimate sewage disposal will be accomplished at the City of Fresno's existing treatment plant which is operated and maintained by the City. There is capacity in the City's treatment facility adequate for the needs of the District, and the County and the City have entered into an agreement to provide for the treatment and disposal of the sewage generated by the residents of the District.

Environmental Review

A study was conducted by the County to determine the environmental impacts in the area that would result from the proposed collection system. On December 20, 1977 the Fresno County Board of Supervisors confirmed the Negative Declaration, previously issued, that the project would have a significant adverse effect on the environment. The environmental review was made in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970.

Estimated Project Costs and Sources of Funds

Table 2 shows a summary of the estimated project costs. On the following page is a summary of the sources of funds.

Table 2
FRESNO COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 169
Estimated Project Costs

	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Total
Cost of Construction	\$3,845,565.00 ¹	\$714,132.00	\$49,245.54	\$4,608,942.54
Acquired Sewer Facilities	89,582.87	-	-	89,582.87
Construction Contingencies	99,759.73	36,063.44	2,462.27	138,285.44
Incidental Expenses	781,247.22	83,771.51	10,968.37	875,987.10
City of Fresno Charges	698,767.64	-	-	698,767.64
Total Project Cost	\$5,514,922.46	\$833,966.95	\$62,676.18	\$6,411,565.59

¹ The estimated cost of construction for Phase I is \$13,080 less than the sum of Phase I construction bids due to a proposed change order which will reduce the cost of construction.

FRESNO COUNTY
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.169
Sources of Funds

Credit from City of Fresno	\$ 364,396.37
Cash Collections	649,689.09
Bond Proceeds	5,397,480.13
Total Sources of Funds	\$6,411,565.59

On November 22, November 29 and December 13, 1977, construction bids for the three construction schedules of Phase I, the sewer construction, were received from contractors. Construction bids for Phase III, the concrete street improvements (estimated construction cost of \$51,707.81), are expected to be received late in 1978. Construction bids for Phase II, the permanent street restoration (estimated construction cost of \$750,195.44) are expected to be received in mid-1979. The tabulation below summarizes the best construction bids for Phase I.

Phase I Construction Schedule	Contractor	Construction Bid
I	R.L. Thibodo	\$ 1,019,676
II	R.L. Thibodo	1,631,969
III	Valley Engineers, Inc.	1,207,000
Total Phase I		\$ 3,858,645 ¹

¹ The figure shown does not reflect a proposed change order which will reduce the estimated cost of construction by \$13,080.

Method of Assessment

The costs of the improvements were apportioned to benefited parcels in proportion to the estimated benefits received by the parcels.

The assessment for a given parcel consists of assessments for the following general categories of improvements: Phase I—sewer construction; Phase II—permanent street restoration; and Phase III—street improvements, as follows:

- I Within the Sewer Construction category, benefit was determined on the basis of use, street frontage and parcel size. Parcels were also assessed on the basis of house lateral branches, the City of Fresno's oversize sewer charge and the City of Fresno's major facilities charge. Lots which will not benefit from the construction of the sewers were not assessed.
- II Within the Permanent Street Restoration category, benefit was determined on the basis of front footage. Adjustments to frontage widths were made, where necessary, for irregularly shaped parcels.
- III Within the Street Improvements category, benefit was determined for any given parcel on the basis of the lineal footage of curbs and gutters to be constructed for that parcel. Parcels were also assessed on the basis of the square footage of any driveway approaches to be constructed for a given parcel.

The total assessment for a given parcel was the sum of the individual assessment for the parcel under the categories outlined above. Assessments ranged from \$224.17 to \$253,154.44; and the typical assessment is approximately \$3,000. More than sixty-five percent of all the parcels assessed received assessments of from \$2,000 to \$3,000, and nearly thirty percent received assessments of from \$3,000 to \$4,000. Only eleven parcels received assessments greater than \$10,000. The largest assessment, of \$253,154.44, was paid during the cash collection period. The next largest assessment was \$57,063.48.

The Assessment District

The District consists of 1997 parcels in an unincorporated residential urban area within the metropolitan region of the City of Fresno. The District is approximately 810 acres in size and is located in the northwestern sector of the City's metropolitan area.

1871 parcels in the District receive benefit from the improvements and were assessed. Of the 1743 parcels within the Fresno County Improvement District No. 169 which have unpaid assessments, more than 1650 or approximately ninety-five percent, are improved. Of the parcels with unpaid assessments, more than 1550, or approximately ninety percent, are improved with single-family residences.

For parcels within the District which have unpaid assessments, the 1977/78 assessed valuation of land is \$5,281,975, and the assessed valuation of improvements is \$20,237,825. Based on a ratio of assessed value to full value of 25 percent, for parcels with unpaid assessments the full value of land and improvements are thus estimated to be \$21,127,900 and \$80,951,300, respectively, for a total estimated full value of \$102,079,200, resulting in a value:lien ratio of nearly nineteen to one.

Appendix I, which accompanies this Official Statement, lists for each parcel within the District the following information: the amount of the unpaid assessment in conjunction with Fresno County Improvement District No. 169, the 1977/78 assessed valuation of land and improvements, and the value:lien ratio. The value:lien ratio shown in Appendix I is the ratio of the full value (shown as four times the assessed value) of the land and improvements to the unpaid assessments in conjunction with Fresno County Improvement District No. 169.

Of the parcels with unpaid assessments in conjunction with Improvement District No. 169, 149 are subject to existing special assessment liens. Appendix II, which accompanies this Official Statement, lists for each such parcel with prior special assessment liens the following information: the amount of the unpaid assessment in conjunction with Improvement District No. 169, the amount of any other existing unpaid special assessment, the type of bond issued to represent the existing unpaid special assessment, the assessed valuation of land and improve-

ments, and the value:lien ratio. The value:lien ratio shown in Appendix II is the ratio of the full value (shown as four times the assessed value) of the land and improvements to the unpaid assessments in conjunction both with Improvement District No. 169 and with prior existing special assessment liens.

A great majority of the parcels within the District are medium-sized lots developed with single-family residences. More than 1,600, or 80%, of the parcels which comprise the District are from one-quarter (1/4) acre to one-half (1/2) acre in size. Only 35 parcels, less than 2% of the total, are greater than 1 acre in size. The following table shows parcel-size distribution for the parcels within the District.

FRESNO COUNTY
Improvement District No. 169

Size of Acres	Number of Parcels	Percent of Total
Less than 0.25	231	11.6%
0.25 - 0.50	1,626	81.4
0.51 - 0.75	72	3.6
0.76 - 1.00	33	1.7
1.00 - 1.50	16	0.8
1.50 - 2.00	5	0.2
Greater than 2.00	14	0.7
Total	1,997	100.0%

FINANCIAL DATA

FRESNO COUNTY

1977/78 Assessed Valuations

Roll	Net Assessed Valuation	State Reimbursed Exemptions	Assessed Valuation for Revenue Purposes
Secured . . .	\$1,496,238,905	\$196,905,938	\$1,693,144,843
Unsecured	140,092,200	42,656,805	182,749,005
Utility	221,118,460	10,780,530	231,898,990
Total . . .	\$1,857,449,565	\$250,343,273	\$2,107,792,838 ¹

¹ Includes \$16,492,887 of incremental assessed valuations within the redevelopment project areas of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Fresno. Property taxes levied against such valuations may be paid to the Agency and in such case would not be available to overlapping tax entities.

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

Assessed valuations for recent years, including state reimbursed exemptions, appear below.

Assessed Valuations

Assessed valuations in Fresno County are established by the Fresno County Assessor, except for utility property, which is assessed by the State. According to the State Board of Equalization, Fresno County assessed valuations for the 1977/78 fiscal year average 20.4 percent of full value. Utility property was reported to be assessed at 25 percent of full value by the State.

In addition to normal exemptions from ad valorem taxes such as public property and welfare institutions, the Constitution and Statutes of the State of California exempt a portion of the assessed valuation of business inventories and of owner-occupied dwellings, provided by the owner files for such exemption. The homeowners' exemption is \$1750, and the business inventory exemption is 50 percent of assessed valuation. Revenue lost by each taxing agency as a result of these two exemptions is reimbursed from state funds.

The following tabulation shows 1977/78 assessed valuations for Fresno County, before and after the state-reimbursed exemptions noted in the above paragraph.

Fiscal Year	Assessed Valuation for Revenue Purposes ¹	Incremental Assessed Value ²
1977/78	\$2,107,792,838	\$16,492,887
1976/77	1,914,900,643	14,315,996
1975/76	1,691,414,146	12,149,066
1974/75	1,545,760,892	9,731,990
1973/74	1,324,884,042	9,133,403
1972/73	1,220,891,926	6,068,656
1971/72	1,149,148,521	3,760,507
1970/71	1,017,869,389	-
1969/70	956,553,085	-
1968/69	979,623,914	-

¹ Before deduction of state-reimbursed exemptions and including incremental assessed valuation.

² Within the redevelopment project areas of the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Fresno. Incremental values prior to 1971/72 are not available.

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

On the following page are assessed valuations for Fresno County and its cities for the 1977/78 fiscal year, including the state-reimbursed exemptions mentioned above.

CITIES IN FRESNO COUNTY

1977-78 Assessed Values ¹

Cities	Secured	Utility	Unsecured	Total
Clovis	\$ 64,089,099	\$ 3,710,820	\$ 4,103,974	\$ 71,903,893
Coalinga	10,340,117	763,750	1,258,578	12,362,445
Firebaugh	5,989,120	533,460	1,053,986	7,576,566
Fowler	4,268,171	734,240	680,106	5,682,517
Fresno	520,806,426	42,296,960	78,174,206	641,277,592
Huron	1,931,787	309,130	587,034	2,827,951
Kerman	6,189,448	553,820	1,112,291	7,855,559
Kingsburg	14,195,977	647,050	834,734	15,677,761
Mendota	4,348,468	419,210	958,321	5,725,999
Orange Cove	4,375,431	329,180	194,115	4,898,726
Parlier	3,188,356	328,750	67,270	3,584,376
Reedley	21,984,654	2,073,210	2,958,254	27,016,118
Sanger	22,357,771	1,785,900	7,254,777	31,398,448
San Joaquin	2,382,300	274,170	105,269	2,761,739
Selma	21,010,471	1,631,850	2,043,996	24,686,317
Total - Inside Cities	\$ 707,457,596	\$ 56,391,500	\$101,386,911	\$ 865,236,007
Total - Outside Cities	985,687,247	175,507,490	81,362,094	1,242,556,831
Fresno County Total	<u>\$1,693,144,843</u>	<u>\$231,898,990</u>	<u>\$182,749,005</u>	<u>\$2,107,792,838</u>

¹ Including state-reimbursed exemptions. Also includes \$16,492,887 incremental assessed valuations for the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Fresno.

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

Principal Taxpayers

The tabulation below presents the ten principal property taxpayers in Fresno County and the 1977/78 County secured tax levy for each.

FRESNO COUNTY

Principal Taxpayers

Firm	1977/78 Secured Taxes Payable
Pacific Gas and Electric Company	\$10,214,296
Pacific Telephone Company	5,085,062
Southern California Edison	3,903,246
Standard Oil of California (Chevron) ..	3,463,996
Southern Pacific Company	2,061,907
Union Oil Company of California	1,655,667
Ernest & Julio Gallo	840,813
Amstar Corporation (Spreckels Sugar) .	560,225
P.P.G. Industries (Glass Manufacturing)	447,782
Producers Cotton Oil	402,335

Source: Fresno County Treasurer.

Tax Rates

There are 875 tax code areas in Fresno County, with tax rates ranging from \$7.7434 to \$14.45062 per \$100 assessed valuation. Tax Code Area 5-001, located in the City of Fresno, has the greatest assessed valuation (\$145,887,222 in 1977/78) of all code areas in the County. The total tax rate in this tax code area for the most recent five-year period is shown in the tabulation on the following page.

There are 4 tax code areas lying entirely within, and 30 tax code areas lying partially within, Improvement District No. 169. The tax code areas lying entirely within Improvement District No. 169 are 98-036, 98-042, 98-104 and 98-133.

The largest of all 34 tax code areas is tax code area 98-036, which is entirely within Improvement District No. 169 and has a 1977/78 assessed valuation of \$12,488,311. The 1977/78 tax rate for tax code area 98-036 is detailed on the following page.

Tax Code Area 5-001**Record of Tax Rates per \$100 Assessed Valuation**

Agency	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	1977/78
Fresno County	\$ 3.0524	\$ 2.9870	\$ 3.2770	\$ 3.1800	\$ 3.1800
City of Fresno	2.7902	2.7870	2.7386	2.6840	2.6244
State Center	0.7672	0.7962	0.7890	0.7282	0.6722
Fresno Unified School District	4.4708	4.6430	4.7310	4.8724	4.6152
Other School	0.7668	0.6462	0.6282	0.5864	0.4640
Fresno County Library	0.1654	0.1694	0.1756	0.1780	0.1804
Fresno Mosquito Abatement	0.0546	0.0582	0.0406	0.0500	0.0732
Subtotal	\$12.0674	\$12.0870	\$12.3800	\$12.2790	\$11.9488
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control ¹	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000
West Fresno Red Scale ¹	0.5084	0.6612	0.4876	0.9980	1.2064
Total Tax Rate	\$12.7758	\$12.9482	\$13.5676	\$13.4770	\$13.3552

¹ Tax levied on land only.

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

Tax Code Area 98-036**Tax Rate for 1977/78
per \$100 Assessed Valuation**

Agency	Rate
Fresno County	\$ 3.1800
Fresno Unified School District - General ...	4.6152
Fresno Unified School District - Bonds	0.2714
Fresno Unified School District - Miscellaneous	1.0042
North Central Fire District	0.9526
North Central Zone I	0.3000
County Library	0.1804
Mosquito Abatement District	0.0732
Subtotal	\$10.5770
Kings River Conservation District ¹	0.1620
Water Works No. 21 Bond ¹	0.4000
Water Works No. 21 Maintenance ¹	0.0000
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control ¹	0.2000
Fresno Red Scale ¹	1.2064
Total Tax Rate	\$12.5454

¹ Tax levied on land only.

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

Secured Tax Levies and Delinquencies

Ad valorem taxes are collected by the Fresno County Tax Collector. Taxes on secured property are due on November 1 and February 1 and become delinquent on December 10 and April 10, respectively. Taxes on unsecured property are due on March 1 and are delinquent the following August 31.

A nine-year record of secured tax levies, collections, and tax delinquencies for Fresno County appears in the tabulation below.

FRESNO COUNTY**Secured Tax Levies and Tax Delinquency**

Year	Secured Tax Levy	Collected June 30	Delin- quent June 30	Percent Delin- quent
1976/77	\$49,310,966	\$48,567,683	\$743,283	1.50%
1975/76	44,587,490	43,958,667	628,823	1.42
1974/75	37,357,235	36,639,346	717,889	1.92
1973/74	37,826,553	32,245,753	580,800	1.76
1972/73	35,440,712	34,815,545	625,167	1.76
1971/72	35,867,577	35,269,771	597,806	1.66
1970/71	27,053,936	26,556,023	497,913	1.84
1969/70	25,739,777	25,329,561	410,216	1.59
1968/69	26,041,730	25,727,591	314,139	1.20

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

Estimated Overlapping Bonded Debt

A Statement of Estimated Overlapping Bonded

Debt for the County as of February 28, 1978 is shown in Table 3 below. The County has no outstanding general obligation bonds.

Table 3

FRESNO COUNTY

Statement of Estimated Overlapping Bonded Debt

1977 Population (January)	463,700 ¹
1977/78 Assessed Valuation	\$ 2,091,299,951 ²
1977/78 Estimated Market Value	\$10,042,528,000 ³

Entity	Percent Applicable ⁴	Debt 2/28/78 ⁵
Fresno Unified School District	100.0%	\$18,327,000
Clovis Unified School District	100.	14,099,000
Other unified school districts	Various	6,629,240
High school districts	Various	4,873,374
Elementary school districts	Various	2,232,124
City of Fresno	100.	3,525,000
City of Clovis	100.	3,425,000
Other cities	100.	6,300,290
County water works districts	100.	3,809,000
Selma-Kingsburg - Fowler County Sanitary District	100.	3,700,000
Other special districts	Various	3,275,146
TOTAL GROSS OVERLAPPING BONDED DEBT		\$70,195,174
Less: Self-supporting bonds ⁶		4,480,139
TOTAL NET OVERLAPPING BONDED DEBT		\$65,715,035

	Assessed Valuation	Ratio to Market Value	Per Capita
1977/78 Assessed Valuation	- %	- %	\$4,510
Direct Bonded Debt	-	-	-
Total Gross Debt	3.36	0.70	151
Total Net Debt	3.14	0.65	142

¹ Source: State Department of Finance.

² Excludes \$16,492,887 City of Fresno redevelopment projects incremental assessed valuations (\$16,246,847 secured and unsecured, and \$246,040 utility).

³ The State Board of Equalization reports that 1977/78 Fresno County assessed valuations average 20.4 percent of full value, with public utility property reportedly assessed at 25 percent of full value.

⁴ Source: California Municipal Statistics, Inc., San Francisco, California.

⁵ Excludes County share of City-County lease obligations (\$6,405,000); City lease obligations (\$18,260,000); existing 1915 Act and other special assessment bonds (\$3,277,558); the bonds herein offered for sale; and sales and calls, if any, between February 7, 1978 and February 28, 1978.

⁶ Mendota, Sanger and Clovis water bonds, Fresno and Reedley sewer bonds, Pinedale County Water District water bonds and City of Fresno Parking District No. 1 Bonds.

Revenue and Expenditures and Fund Balances

Table 4 below presents a summary of revenues and expenditures for the past five years, as reported by the County's Auditor-Controller to the State Controller.

Table 5 on pages 14 and 15 presents the combined balance sheet as of June 30, 1976, for all funds and account groups for Fresno County, as reported by the Fresno County Auditor-Controller in the County's 1975/76 Annual Financial Report.

Table 4
FRESNO COUNTY
Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76 ¹	1976/77
REVENUES:					
Property Taxes	\$ 40,394,098	\$ 37,976,906	\$ 42,763,299	\$ 50,647,881	\$ 56,599,196
Other Taxes	5,021,065	6,995,950	8,491,196	9,184,910	10,032,800
Licences and Permits	618,097	617,837	627,345	703,541	1,113,132
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties, ..	1,063,023	1,250,907	1,671,842	1,766,695	1,847,471
Use of Money and Property ...	1,439,937	2,966,754	4,087,440	3,083,689	2,568,670
From Other Agencies	77,664,495	72,033,051	69,180,654	78,037,669	87,442,620 ²
Current Services	3,453,483	6,736,090	7,016,744	10,544,918	8,666,209
Other Revenue	797,717	272,173	456,212	1,133,550	390,763
Total	\$130,451,915	\$128,849,668	\$134,294,732	\$155,102,853	\$168,660,861
EXPENDITURES:					
General Government	\$ 12,899,001	\$ 27,803,658	\$ 19,379,404	\$ 25,188,035	\$ 21,095,150
Public Safety	14,599,405	20,798,187	16,838,499	28,083,611	32,831,684
Public Works	7,934,141	12,070,214	11,118,656	12,562,913	13,275,174
Health and Sanitation	6,440,295	10,694,788	7,686,955	14,378,237	17,109,801
Public Assistance	74,112,174	61,421,842	61,587,813	70,454,520	74,419,710 ²
Education and Library	2,618,188	3,439,946	2,756,863	3,852,062	4,251,664
Parks and Recreation	535,408	1,092,162	681,476	1,297,802	1,397,001
Total	\$119,098,612	\$137,320,797	\$120,049,666	\$155,817,180	\$164,380,184

¹ CETA Title II and Title VI programs first appeared in 1975/76. Also in 1975/76, crippled childrens services were first reported under Health and Sanitation after previously being included in Public Assistance.

² Includes \$13,929,798 State and \$18,833,838 Federal Aid for Public Assistance plus \$8,265,960 Federal Revenue Sharing.

Source: State Controller and Fresno County Auditor-Controller.

Table 5

FRESNO COUNTY

All Funds and Account Groups Combined Balance Sheet

June 30, 1976

	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Intragovern- mental Service Funds	Public Service Enterprise Funds	Trust and Agency Funds	Capital Projects Fund	General Long-term Debt
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS							
Cash with County Treasurer	\$12,900,089	\$16,764,814	\$1,540,606	-	\$109,129,795	\$420,339	-
Cash in Banks	-	-	-	-	2,480,547	-	-
Collections in Transit	-	-	-	\$ 35,880	2,378,166	-	-
Imprest Cash	6,775	616	175	945	-	-	-
Due from Other Funds	6,283,807	326,722	-	-	4,768,168	-	-
Accounts Receivable - Net of allowance for uncollectible of \$18,433,152 ²	212,831	117,376	471,971	14,722,314	1,905,287	-	-
Inventory of Materials and Supplies ¹ ..	433,594	399,567	204,628	490,776	-	-	-
Due from Other Funds - Loans	3,370,399	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments ¹	100	-	-	-	68,746,237	-	-
Property held by Public Administrator-Guardian	-	-	-	-	1,372,750	-	-
Taxes Receivable - Net ³	1,128,755	69,327	-	-	-	-	-
Property, Plant and Equipment - Net of accumulated depreciation of \$11,045,026 ¹	-	-	6,404,246	6,581,708	-	-	-
Construction in Progress	-	-	-	1,390,836	-	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	-	-	358	27,404	-	-	-
Deferred Charges	-	-	-	63,142	-	-	-
Deposits with Others	33,000	320,695	1,365	-	-	-	-
Other Assets	-	-	-	328,478	-	-	-
Future Requirements for Long-term Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$517,196
TOTAL	\$24,369,350	\$17,999,117	\$8,623,349	\$23,641,483	\$190,780,950	\$420,339	\$517,196

LIABILITIES

Warrants Payable	\$ 4,391,139	-	-	\$ 3,237	\$ 27,149,391	-	-
Accounts Payable	839,525	\$ 199,690	\$ 297,607	1,845,439	8,011,438	-	-
Accrued Payroll	676,603	104,654	37,233	260,947	-	-	-
Due to Other Funds	531	-	-	-	11,378,166	-	-
Tax Collections Due to Other							
Governmental Units	-	-	-	-	448,600	-	-
Agency Funds Held for Other							
Governmental Units	-	-	-	71,369	62,109,524	-	-
Trust Obligations ⁴	-	-	-	-	81,397,927	-	-
Deposits from Others	-	-	-	9,797	-	-	-
Due to Other Funds - Loans	-	-	89,500	2,994,995	285,904	-	-
Long-term Debt Payable ²	-	-	-	96,808	-	-	\$517,196
TOTAL	\$ 5,907,798	\$ 304,344	\$ 424,340	\$ 5,282,592	\$190,780,950	\$ - 0 -	\$517,\$96
ENCUMBRANCES							
Encumbrances Outstanding	3,105,391	4,688,247	-	-	-	-	-
RESERVES AND EQUITIES							
Reserve for:							
Imprest Cash	6,775	616	-	-	-	-	-
Loans to Other Funds	3,370,399	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Reserve	-	1,382	-	-	-	-	-
Deposits with Others	33,000	320,695	-	-	-	-	-
Payroll Advance	2,210	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inventory of Materials and Supplies ..	291,155	399,567	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated Capital Outlay	-	23,110	-	-	-	-	-
Equities:							
Contributed Capital	-	-	7,826,595	34,515,096	-	-	-
Fund Balance	11,652,522	12,261,156	-	-	-	420,339	-
Retained Earnings	-	-	372,414	(16,156,205)	-	-	-
TOTAL	\$24,369,350	\$17,999,117	\$8,623,349	\$23,641,483	\$190,780,950	\$420,339	\$517,196

^{1 2 3 4} Footnotes refer to notes to financial statements contained in Fresno County 1975/76 Annual Financial Report.

Source: Fresno County Auditor-Controller Annual Financial Report.

Retirement System

Fresno County Employees are covered under the provisions of the California Government Code Title 3, Division 4, Part 3, Chapter 3, a section of the Code which is also referred to as the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937, as amended.

The particular section that applies to Fresno County is Section 31676.12 for the miscellaneous members, and Section 31664 for the safety members. The contributions for members is based on age of entry expressed as a percentage of salary. The

safety members make a higher percentage of contributions than the miscellaneous members. The County contributions is an aggregate of 22.32% for safety members and 10.24% for miscellaneous members. This contribution by the County is the same regardless of age of entry.

At the time of retirement, the safety members get a higher dollar amount of retirement per month than the miscellaneous members for the same age, length of service, and average salary. The salary used in the calculation for retirement is the average of the highest year.

FRESNO COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Statement of Cash Receipts & Disbursements

Year Ending December 31, 1976

Cash Balance, December 31, 1975	-	\$ 981,995
RECEIPTS:		
Member Contributions - Miscellaneous	\$ 2,439,202	-
Member Contributions - Safety	377,950	-
County & District Contributions - Miscellaneous	5,846,266	-
County & District Contributions - Safety	1,455,107	-
County & District Contributions:		
Cost of Living - Misc. & Safety	710,107	-
Interest	3,579,051	-
Dividends	686,466	-
Securities, Matured, Redeemed or Sold	8,107,532	-
Re-Deposited Warrants	4,733	\$23,206,414
Total		<u>\$24,188,409</u>
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Refunds:		
Miscellaneous	\$ 511,971	-
Safety	26,785	-
COL - Miscellaneous	76,957	-
COL-Safety	3,780	-
Death Benefits Paid	17,669	-
Retirement Allowance - Miscellaneous	2,513,234	-
Retirement Allowance - Safety	368,287	-
COL - Payments to Retired Members	325,326	-
Survivor's Death Allowance	55,409	-
Securities Purchased	18,084,936	-
Investment Management Fee	30,563	-
Health Insurance Premium for Retirees	69,893	-
Refund of Dividend Overpayment	2,430	\$22,087,240
Cash Balance, December 31, 1976		<u>2,101,169</u>
Total		<u>\$24,188,409</u>

Source: Fresno County Employees Retirement System 1976 Annual Report.

An independent Actuary performs an actuarial survey of the system every three years. At that time the Actuary recommends adjusted rates both for employees and for the County if it is necessary. The actuarial surveys indicate that the system is actuarially sound. The County's financial report sent to the Actuary as of June 30, 1977, shows assets of \$83 million. There is a deficit in the system due to the implementation of Section 31676.12 on July 1, 1975. This gave the employees an improved retirement allowance, and the additional liability is being funded over a thirty-year period as allowed by the Retirement Law and recommended by the Actuary. The Retirement System presently has 5,235 active members, and 1,143 retired members.

The Retirement System is governed by a 9-person Retirement Board, operating within the framework of the 1937 Retirement Law. The administration of

the system is the responsibility of the Fresno County Treasurer, J.B. Malmstrom. The Retirement Board is allowed to invest up to 25% of total assets in equities. The Board has invested as high as 23%, but has now only about 16% of the System's total assets in equities. The balance of the investments is in long-term corporate bonds and in government agencies. The bonds must be rated "A" or better, and the vast majority of the bonds are rated "AAA". The Board is required by law to hire an investment advisor to advise the Retirement Board regarding the investment portfolio. The Board retains Henderson Boston Company of San Francisco as its Investment Advisor.

The tabulation presented on pages 16 and 17 show cash receipts and disbursements for the year ending December 31, 1976 and a statement of assets and liabilities for the year ending December 31, 1976, respectively, as reported in the Fresno County Employees Retirement System annual report for 1976.

FRESNO COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As of December 31, 1976

ASSETS:

Cash		\$ 2,101,169
Matured Securities Receivable		45,000
Securities:		
Bonds Par Value	\$59,061,558	
Plus Premium	420,555	
Less Discount	(454,650)	
Common Stock at Cost	15,638,490	
Total Securities		<u>74,665,953</u>
Total		<u>\$76,812,122</u>

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

Due to Fiscal Agent for Bond Trade	\$ 300,657
Member's Deposit Reserve:	
Salary Deductions - Miscellaneous	17,542,893
Cost of Living Members' Reserve - Miscellaneous	1,385,372
Salary Deductions - Safety	3,128,064
Cost of Living Members' Reserve - Safety	262,101
County Advance Reserve - Current Service - Miscellaneous	12,173,016
County Advance Reserve - Current Service - Safety	2,466,842
Annuity Reserve - Miscellaneous	6,039,902
Annuity Reserve - Safety	707,841
Current Service Pension Reserve - Miscellaneous	21,509,067
Current Service Pension Reserve - Safety	4,255,059
Survivor's Death Benefit Reserve - Miscellaneous	809,972
Cost of Living Adjustment Reserve	2,349,715
Surplus	<u>3,881,621</u>
Total	<u>\$76,812,122</u>

Source: Fresno County Employees Retirement System 1976 Annual Report.

Lease Commitments

The County has commitments under long-term real property operating lease agreements for facilities used for operations. The lease agreements provide for cancellation in the event the Board of Supervisors does not appropriate funding in subsequent fiscal years, and therefore, the County is not obligated beyond the end of each fiscal year. Total rental expense for these operating leases for the year ended June 30, 1976 was approximately \$529,000.

In addition to real property leases, the County has also entered into long-term leases for personal property, the majority of which represents data processing equipment. The leases are also subject to annual adjustment based upon negotiation. Management expects that in the normal course of business, leases that expire will be renewed or replaced by other leases. Total rental expense for these operating leases for the year ended June 30, 1976, was approximately \$1.6 million.

Capital Improvements Program

All proposed acquisitions of land and structures are budgeted in the County's Capital Improvement Projects budget for construction. Such acquisitions are subject to competitive bidding, and ultimate contracts are awarded by the Board of Supervisors. The capital projects adopted by the Board for fiscal year 1977/78 amount to \$14,765,133. The largest project approved by the Board was a joint City-County Administration Building, for which the Board appropriated \$5,359,300. Financing of all capital projects for 1977/78 is provided by the County's General Fund (\$444,750) and Federal Revenue Sharing (\$14,320,383).

Contingent Liabilities

In the opinion of the County Counsel, as of December 15, 1977, there is a potential liability of \$506,250 which could result if unfavorable decisions are rendered in the usual legal actions pending, in which the County is named the defendant, where no insurance is provided. There could also be contingent

liabilities in cases wherein actions have been filed against the County alleging damages caused by (1) a dangerous condition of County property (including County highways); (2) medical malpractice by County doctors or other medical staff; or (3) condemnation of property for County use.

The State of California, as a result of an audit of Health Care Services administered by the County for the period July 1, 1972 to December 31, 1975 has taken exception to \$586,000 of reimbursed costs. The County Auditor-Controller plans to protest the findings and anticipates that this amount will be reduced. The County participates in various state and federal programs subject to audit, and could become liable for various amounts for subsequent periods under audit or subject to future audit.

The County has an estimated \$1.2 million contingent liability as of June 30, 1976 arising from claims under the noninsured portion of its self-administered worker's compensation program. Appropriations are budgeted annually to provide for those portions of obligations coming due that fiscal year.

The County instituted a noninsured self-administered liability insurance program on June 1, 1976. The County has an estimated \$2.5 million contingent liability at June 30, 1976, arising from claims under the noninsured portion of this program. Appropriations will be budgeted annually to provide for those obligations coming due that fiscal year.

County employees have accumulated benefits of approximately \$10.1 million for employee compensatory time off, sick leave and vacation earned. Normally these accumulated benefits will be liquidated in future years as employees elect to use their benefits. \$5.3 million of this amount represents compensatory time off and vacation earned, which employees may elect to have paid in cash upon separation from County service for any reason. Also included is \$4.8 million which is the value of that portion of sick leave benefits payable to employees in the event of absence due to illness. In the normal course of business, all payments of these accumulated benefits will be funded from appropriations of the year in which they are paid.

ECONOMY OF THE AREA

The County of Fresno is located in the San Joaquin Valley. Its County seat city, the City of Fresno, located at the geographic center of the state of California, is 222 miles north of Los Angeles and 183 miles southeast of San Francisco.

Fresno is the sixth largest county in the state with 5,998 square miles, including over forty square miles of water area. The County extends from the crest of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the east to the Coastal range in the west. The elevation of the County ranges from 14,242 feet in Kings Canyon National Park to 110 feet along the San Joaquin river. The climatic range is as great as the variety of topography, with temperatures varying from the teens or lower in the mountains to above 100 degrees in the valley. The mean maximum temperature in the City of Fresno in July is just below 100 degrees. In the County precipitation can vary from eleven inches or less in the central and western portions to thirty inches at elevations of 7000 feet in the east with substantial snow at higher elevations.

The County annually ranks as the first in the nation in terms of agricultural production, in addition to being a principal commercial, industrial and transportation center for a six-county area. This six-county area includes Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks.

Municipal Government

Fresno County was established April 19, 1856, from parts of Tulare, Mariposa, and Merced counties. Later boundary adjustments took parts of the original Fresno County and added them to Madera, San Benito, and Kings Counties. Fresno County is a Charter County; the present charter became effective on April 19, 1933.

The Board of Supervisors consists of five members elected by districts to four-year terms on a staggered basis. The Administrative Officer is responsible for the operation of municipal functions and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors. The County Counsel is selected by the Board of Supervisors. The Director of Public Works is selected by the Administrative Officer, subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors. Elected officials include, among others, the Assessor, Auditor-Controller, County Clerk Recorder, District Attorney, Treasurer-Tax Collector, and Sheriff.

The Fresno County 1977/78 annual budget includes expenditure appropriations totaling \$212,949,015, providing for more than 6,000 full-time general County employees.

Population

The population of Fresno county increased from 413,329 in 1970 (U.S. Census data) to 463,700 in 1977 (State Department of Finance estimate) with over forty percent of the County's current population living in the City of Fresno. The Fresno Metropolitan Area (Fresno County) is the eighty-first (81st) most populous in the United States and the sixth (6th) most populous in the State. Population growth for Fresno County and its major cities is shown in the accompanying tabulations. The table to the right shows population growth for the County as a whole from 1930 to 1977. The table below shows population growth for the County and cities within the County from 1973 to 1977.

FRESNO COUNTY

Population Data

Year	Population	Percent Increase
1930	144,379	-
1940	178,565	23.7%
1950	276,515	54.8
1960	365,945	32.3
1970	413,329	12.9
1977	463,700	12.1

Source: U.S. Census, except 1977, State Department of Finance

FRESNO COUNTY

Population Data — Cities

City	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Fresno	171,900	174,100	175,900	179,200	186,900
Clovis	18,400	19,700	20,750	23,100	25,700
Sanger	10,350	10,450	10,250	10,750	10,800
Reedley	8,250	8,350	9,100	9,750	9,950
Selma	8,000	8,300	8,325	8,525	9,025
Coalinga	6,225	6,150	6,175	6,200	6,300
Other Cities	25,560	26,700	27,330	27,975	28,325
Unincorporated	183,115	184,950	185,170	186,300	186,700
County Total	431,800	438,700	443,000	451,800	463,700

Source: State Department of Finance

Employment

The Fresno Labor Market Area, as reported by the State Employment Development Department, includes all of Fresno County. As of October 1977, the total civilian labor force in Fresno County was 254,100, of whom 236,500 were employed. The October 1977 unadjusted unemployment rate was 6.9 percent compared to an October 1976 rate of 6.6 percent. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates were 9.9 percent and 9.5 percent, respectively. The figures largely reflect the seasonal nature of agricultural employment with its peak harvesting and packing season in late summer and its low period historically in March.

Among wage and salary workers in October, 1977, the largest category of employment was agriculture

with 24 percent of those employed. Second largest is government with 18 percent (largely state and local). The next leading categories of wage and salary employment are retail trade, services and manufacturing.

Some larger nonmanufacturing employers include Pacific Telephone, with over 1500 employees, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company, with nearly 1000 employees. Also, the Western Region Office of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service is located in the City of Fresno and employs more than 3000 people on a seasonal basis.

The tabulation on the following page lists the growth in the civilian labor force for the Fresno Labor Market from 1972 to 1976.

FRESNO LABOR MARKET

Wage and Salary Workers

Civilian Labor Force (in Thousands)

Industry	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Agriculture	33.8	37.4	40.7	44.8	46.4
Mining	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
Construction	6.6	7.1	7.3	6.8	7.6
Manufacturing	18.5	19.9	20.4	19.8	20.8
Transportation, Utilities	8.4	8.5	8.8	9.0	8.9
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.6	9.8	9.6	12.4
Retail Trade	24.7	25.8	26.7	27.0	28.6
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate ...	6.1	6.6	7.0	7.1	7.7
Services	24.3	25.9	27.1	27.9	28.4
Government	32.3	34.4	36.2	38.5	39.7
Subtotal	164.4	175.9	184.7	191.3	201.3
Non Wage and Salary Workers	15.2	4.7	7.7	1.8	7.7
Total Civilian Employment	179.6	180.6	192.4	193.1	209.0
Total Civilian Unemployment	14.3	16.8	16.5	19.0	19.0
Total Civilian Labor Force	193.9	197.4	208.9	212.1	228.0
Unemployment Rate	7.4%	8.5%	7.9%	9.0%	8.3%

Source: State Employment Development Department

Commerce

In 1972, there were 10,242 outlets reporting taxable sales in the County. By 1976 this total had increased to 11,598, a gain of 1,356 establishments in five years. The 1977 *Survey of Buying Power* reports \$1,562,169,000 in retail sales for Fresno County in 1976, the seventh highest in the state, as compared to \$1,036,763,000 in 1972. The following tables present a history of taxable sales since 1972 and the distribution of 1976 taxable sales by type of business.

FRESNO COUNTY

Taxable Transactions since 1972 (\$000 omitted)

Year	Retail Stores		All Outlets	
	Permits	Transactions	Permits	Transactions
1972 ¹	4,498	\$ 817,684	10,242	\$1,126,039
1973	4,656	972,870	10,345	1,341,484
1974	4,798	1,100,769	10,598	1,555,140
1975	4,947	1,218,721	10,959	1,689,266
1976	5,053	1,389,503	11,598	1,939,211
1977 (6 months)	5,022	743,918	11,641	1,053,473

¹ Gasoline for highway use became taxable July 1, 1972.

Source: State Board of Equalization.

FRESNO COUNTY

1976 Taxable Transactions by Type of Outlet (\$000 omitted)

Type of Business	Permits	Transactions
Apparel Stores	310	\$ 62,768
General Merchandise, excluding Drug Stores	178	178,089
Drug Stores	98	45,494
Food Stores	530	120,567
Packaged Liquor Stores	121	26,227
Eating & Drinking Places	971	122,021
Home Furnishings, Appliances	492	66,736
Building Materials, Farm Implements	514	210,444
Automotive Dealers and Supplies	485	305,387
Service Stations	478	145,731
Other Retail	876	106,039
Retail Stores Totals .	5,053	\$1,389,503
All Other Outlets	6,545	549,708
Total All Outlets ...	11,598	\$1,939,211

Source: State Board of Equalization.

The table below shows for 1976 the rank of the Fresno Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA), as compared to all of the nations SMSA's for various indicia of retail sales. Fresno County comprises the Fresno SMSA.

FRESNO STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA ¹

1976 Ranking of Retail Sales Indicators ²

Sales Category	County Sales Volume	County Rank
Automotive	\$ 269,911,000	86th
Building Materials, Hardware	80,949,000	78th
Drug Store	83,830,000	45th
Eating & Drinking Place	144,456,000	72nd
Food Store	320,509,000	80th
Furniture, Home Fur- nishings, Appliance Store	109,424,000	64th
General Merchandise Store	269,392,000	71st
Retail Sales	1,562,169,000	78th
Retail Sales per Household	\$ 9,887	113th

¹ Fresno County constitutes the Fresno SMSA.

² Compared to the nation's 300 SMSA's.

Source: *Survey of Buying Power*.

Banking

Bank debits in the County of Fresno for the first six months of 1977 totaled nearly \$14.1 billion, a gain of over 15 percent over the same period in 1976. As reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, bank deposits as of July 1, 1977 were reported to be \$468.7 million as compared to \$433.6 million as of July 1, 1976. The following tabulation is a five year summary of bank debits and bank deposits in the Fresno metropolitan area (Fresno County). The percent of total County bank debits held in the City of Fresno averaged over 87 percent for the five-year period shown. The percent of bank deposits in the City of Fresno averaged over 72 percent.

FRESNO COUNTY

Bank Debits and Deposits (\$000 omitted)

Year	Bank Debits	Bank Deposits (Year End)
1972	\$14,694,200	\$366,064
1973	17,087,242	418,586
1974	20,744,895	463,227
1975	22,256,530	503,496
1976	25,969,338	575,870

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Income

The 1970 Census of Housing reported 126,762 housing units in Fresno County with 60.1 percent owner-occupied and an average 3.5 persons per household. The 1977 *Survey of Buying Power*, published by Sales & Marketing Management, reports Fresno County in seventh place in the State in 1976 for total number of households (158,000) and ninth statewide in effective buying income (\$2,176 billion). This is \$4,722 per capita, compared with a figure of \$6,062 for the State. The 1976 median household income of \$11,752 ranked twelfth in the State, according to the *Survey*.

The tabulation below summarizes Effective Buying Income for the Fresno Metropolitan Area.

FRESNO COUNTY

Effective Buying Income

Range	Percent of Incomes within Range		
	1972	1974	1976
Under \$10,000	67.6%	49.5%	42.9%
\$10,000-\$15,499	18.9	22.4	20.2
\$15,000-\$24,000	9.6	21.3	25.9
\$25,000 or more	3.9	6.8	11.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total Effective Buying Income ¹	\$1,401	\$1,735	\$2,176
Median Income	\$7,589	\$10,100	\$11,752

¹ In billions.

Source: *Survey of Buying Power*

Building and Construction

During the five years 1972 through 1976 the value of building permits issued in Fresno County averaged \$152 million annually. About 52 percent of this annual average consists of nonresidential construction, being predominantly new commercial permits. In the same period, permits for 27,767 new housing units were issued. Of this, 12,683 units were multi-family structures. However, both residential and non-residential permit valuations were markedly

higher in 1976 than in the previous three year period, indicating a recovery from the nation-wide economic slowdown during those three years. Table 6 below lists building permit valuations in Fresno County since 1972. The figures for the first eleven months of 1977 indicate a continued recovery, although at a lesser rate.

The tabulation on the following page lists, by dollar value, the largest building permits issued in Fresno County during the first eleven months of 1977.

Table 6
COUNTY OF FRESNO
Building Permit Valuation
(\$000 omitted)

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977 ¹
Residential:						
New Units	\$ 90,782	\$ 59,254	\$ 66,861	\$ 78,011	\$140,814	\$154,475
Alterations & Additions .	3,357	3,839	4,840	6,041	8,368	9,526
Subtotal	\$ 94,139	\$ 63,093	\$ 71,701	\$ 84,052	\$149,182	\$164,001
Non Residential:						
New Commercial	\$ 24,225	\$ 15,749	\$ 19,438	\$ 15,587	\$ 24,245	\$ 40,612
New Industrial	4,380	12,995	11,447	5,581	15,599	19,622
Alterations & Additions .	6,070	6,660	10,466	9,902	11,443	12,147
Other	9,961	35,094	25,742	13,408	19,754	28,686
Subtotal	\$ 44,636	\$ 70,498	\$ 67,093	\$ 44,478	\$ 71,041	\$101,067
Total Valuation	\$138,775	\$133,591	\$138,794	\$128,530	\$220,223	\$265,068
Number of new dwelling units						
Single Family	4,057	1,886	2,632	2,916	3,593	3,414
Multi-Family	2,930	2,797	1,652	1,472	3,832	2,237
Total	6,987	4,683	4,284	4,388	7,425	5,651

¹ First eleven months.

Source: California Construction Trends, Security Pacific National Bank.

FRESNO COUNTY

Largest Building Permits (First eleven months)

Project/Nature of Work	Owner/Builder	Permit Value	Location
Glass Manufacturing	Guardian Industries	\$5,145,000	Uninc.
Hospital	St. Agnes Hospital	4,250,000	Fresno
Office Building	Valley Nitrogen Producers	3,500,000	Fresno
Air Terminal Concourse	City of Fresno	3,000,000	Fresno
Apartments (130 units)	Huey Hodges	2,472,787	Clovis
Glass Manufacturing	PPG Industries	2,500,000	Fresno
Hospital/Elderly Housing	Housing, Inc.	2,000,000	Fresno
Shopping Center	Walker & Walker	1,715,578	Clovis
Apartments (64 units)	Combes & Stathan	1,165,958	Fresno
Storage	Ballantine Produce	1,135,933	Uninc.
Shopping Center Addition	L & H International	1,100,000	Coalinga
Store	Payless Cashaways	1,050,755	Clovis
Church & related	Harris Construction	1,035,770	Fresno
Mini-Storage	Fresno County Maintgard	850,000	Uninc.
Shopping Center	Walker & Walker	845,543	Clovis
Office Building	Guarantee Trust	800,000	Fresno
Industrial Facility	Walker & Walker	750,000	Fresno
Police/Fire Facility	City of Reedley	679,000	Reedley
Storage	Container Corp.	651,663	Uninc.
Motel	Herrick Campbell	650,000	Fresno
Apartments (32 units)	B.D. Farris	590,000	Fresno
Warehouse	Mont La Salle Vineyards	567,720	Uninc.
Office Building	W.L. Fresno	546,050	Fresno
Store	Le Mark Construction	539,000	Fresno
Shopping Center	Walker & Walker	500,000	Fresno
Office Building	North American Investments	500,000	Fresno

Source: California Construction Trends, Security Pacific National Bank.

Industry

There are more than 340 manufacturing firms in Fresno County. Manufacturing, processing and distributing activities cover a wide range of products. As Fresno County is one of the nation's major food producing and processing centers, industrial activities are closely related to the agricultural sector. Industries which are important segments of the local economy include the following, among others: agriculture, glass manufacturing, food processing, chemical manufacturing, cement, tourism and petroleum.

Some of the nationally-known firms which make up the general base of industry in Fresno County

include Swift & Company, Libby, McNeill & Libby, Sun-Maid Raisin Growers of California, Pet Incorporated, Amstar (formerly Spreckels Sugar Company), Ernest & Julio Gallo Winery, Schenley Distillers, United Vintners (Italian Swiss Colony), PPG Industries, Dow Chemical Company, Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company, Sperry Rand Corporation, and Standard Oil Company of California.

Table 7 on page 25 lists manufacturing, processing and distributing firms in Fresno County which employ 200 or more persons.

Table 7**FRESNO COUNTY****Industrial Firms Employing 200 or More Persons**

Name of Firm	Product or Service
Over 1,000 Employees:	
Del Monte Corporation*	Canned and Preserved goods
Seabrook Foods	Frozen Foods
500 - 1,000 Employees:	
Barr Packing Company*	Decidious Fruit, Grapes
Silver Creek Packing Company	Cantaloupes
United Packing Company*	Fruit, Vegetables, Cotton
Berven Rug Mills, Inc.	Carpets
American Safety Equipment	Automotive seat belts
Fresno Bee	Newspaper
200 - 500 Employees:	
Ballantine Produce Company*	Tree Fruit, Grapes
D'Arrigo Brothers*	Fruits, Vegetables
Eknoian & MacDonald Packing*	Packing
L.R. Hamilton, Inc.*	Fresh Fruits
Ito Packing Company*	Tree Fruit, Grapes
H.P. Metzler & Sons*	Fresh Fruits
Chris Sorensen Packing Company*	Packing
Tenneco West, Inc.*	Fruits, Vegetables
Tri-Boro Fruit Company*	Grapes, Raisins
California Compress Division*	Storage, Cotton
Western Electric Company	Communications
Swift and Company*	Turkey Processing, Sales
Turkey Growers Coop*	Turkey, Turkey Products
Lamanuzzi & Pantaleo*	Dried Fruits
Sun-Maid Raisin Growers*	Raisins, Packaging
West Coast Growers and Packers*	Raisins
San Joaquin Bakeries	Baked goods, bread
AMSTAR (formerly Spreckles Sugar)	Sugar Manufacturing
Producers Cotton Oil Company	Agricultural Management
Schenley Distillers, Inc.*	Packaging
Bayly Corporation	Manufacturing of Jeans
American Forest Products	Containers, Lumber
Valley Nitrogen Producers	Chemical Fertilizers
Buckmin Industries	Glass Products
PPG Industries	Glass Products
Duncan Enterprises	Ceramics, Publishing
J-M Fresno Corporation	Sprinklers
Sperry - New Holland	Farm Machinery
Valley Foundry and Machine Works	Custom Built Machinery
VENDO	Vending Machines
Safeguard Automotive Corporation	Rebuilt Automotive parts
Chamberlain Manufacturing Corporation	Hydraulic Work Platforms

* Seasonal

Source: Fresno County and City Chamber of Commerce

Agriculture

Fresno County has been the largest agricultural producing area in the nation for the past 25 years. 1976 was the second consecutive year that Fresno County exceeded the \$1 billion mark in gross farm receipts, the only county in the State to do so. The nearly \$1.2 billion received by Fresno County farmers and ranchers in 1976 was over 14 percent higher than the 1975 total. The increase in gross farm receipts in 1976 occurred in spite of some losses resulting from the drought. Adverse weather was a significant factor affecting 1976 gross returns. A severe winter with temperatures as low as 24°F., combined with unseasonal summer and fall rains, adversely affected many crops. An October estimate of rain-related loss was \$93,031,000. Harvest-time labor disputes at processing facilities resulted in reduced harvested acreage of processing tomatoes and cling peaches with resultant loss to some growers. The year-to-year increase in gross farm receipts was due primarily to higher unit prices for major commodities and to a substantial increase in harvested acreage of cotton, the County's principal cash crop. Although Fresno County's 1976 total field crop acreage was nearly the same as in 1975, significant changes in acreage plantings did occur among several crops. In particular, acreage reductions took place for rice and wheat, but were offset by the acreage increase recorded for cotton. Overall, the value of Fresno County's field crops rose nearly 23 percent, with most of that increase due to higher production and prices of cotton as well as to a higher price for hay. The County's acreage and value of seed crops remained essentially unaltered from the 1975 levels.

Compared to the previous year, in 1976 total acreage and gross value of Fresno County's vegetable crops were down 27.5 and 6.7 percent, respectively. This reduction was due largely to a substantial drop in the harvested acreage of processing tomatoes. Head lettuce production increased due to drought induced acreage shifts. Cantaloupe acreage declined to previous historical levels from the 1975 high. The harvest season for vegetable crops was extended due to cool temperatures in August. Dry onion acreage was up 100%; planted acreage was higher but due to a sharp price decline not all fields were harvested.

Gross farm receipts from the sale of fruit and nut crops were up 20.6 percent in 1976 despite severe weather losses in some commodities. This increase reflects primarily an improvement in prices and production of wine and table grapes. Over-all grape returns were up 28 percent due mainly to a 41 percent price increase and a 5 percent increase in bearing acreage. Almond returns were up significantly due to a 90 percent increase in yield reflecting the absence of the damaging frosts in the 1976 spring fruit season. Final figures reflect a 44 percent raisin crop loss because of damage by the early fall rains, although new methods of reconditioning rain-damaged raisins reduced the loss from an anticipated 65 percent. With the exception of raisins, grapes and almonds, in 1976 the gross receipts of other fruit and nut crops were generally near 1975 levels.

Fresno County's cash receipts from nursery products showed a sharp rise of over 70 percent in 1976, with most of that increase resulting from higher production of ornamental trees and shrubs (Christmas trees and specimen plants, for example). The County's gross farm revenues from marketings of livestock and livestock products showed an increase of nearly 10 percent over the 1975 total.

Fresno County's ranchers, however, did have some drought-related losses in 1976 as compared to the previous year. The dry 1976 weather severely reduced the quality and quantity of rangeland feed, thus forcing livestock producers to purchase the more expensive feed, such as alfalfa, and to haul water. Rising operating costs accompanied by weak prices caused some ranchers to liquidate a portion of their stock, adding further downward pressure on prices. Thus, the higher total revenues for Fresno's livestock and livestock products do not necessarily mean that the ranchers are in sound financial positions. Within the livestock and poultry category, year-to-year improvement was largely confined to the producers of broilers and fryers and milk producers.

Table 8 on page 27 presents both a five-year summary of agricultural productions and a listing of the ten leading crops for Fresno County. Grapes and cotton are the dominant crops in the County.

Table 8
FRESNO COUNTY
Agricultural Production 1972 - 1976

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
All Commodities					
	Gross Valuation (\$000 omitted)				
Field Crops	\$173,727	\$248,562	\$347,460	\$ 340,540	\$ 418,790
Seed Crops	13,214	15,708	27,116	22,218	22,213
Vegetable Crops	59,725	73,012	129,778	182,264	170,104
Fruit and Nuts	193,032	326,235	294,634	282,320	340,409
Nursery Products	1,181	2,245	1,394	1,592	2,724
Livestock & Poultry	82,599	116,955	112,219	131,050	141,981
Livestock & Poultry Products	35,021	44,792	53,595	63,830	71,973
Apiary & Pollination	808	1,173	1,154	2,542	2,606
Total	\$559,307	\$828,682	\$967,350	\$1,026,356	\$1,170,800
	Acreage or Amount				
Field Crops, acres	2,078,717	2,067,040	2,130,777	2,138,000	2,140,000
Seed Crops, acra	61,418	41,300	47,056	52,600	49,400
Vegetable Crops, acres	67,185	79,900	81,764	122,000	95,700
Fruit and Nuts, acres	233,524	236,772	246,310	247,094	282,320
Nursery Products, acres	73	62	136	349	541
Livestock & Poultry, head	1,383,100	1,108,600	1,055,900	1,161,725	1,143,600
Milk; cwt	5,192,000	5,250,600	5,911,000	6,433,000	6,998,000
Wool; lbs.	877,587	810,000	753,400	700,000	718,000
Eggs; dozen	17,300,000	16,215,387	13,528,228	16,040,000	15,611,000
Apiary & Pollination					
Honey, Beeswax; lbs.	1,468,090	1,717,000	1,202,980	966,800	752,100
Pollination Services; colony	59,500	61,110	57,960	202,540	214,050

Ten Leading Crops

	Gross Valuation (\$000 omitted)				
Cotton	\$ 75,822	\$132,290	\$212,382	\$ 168,370	\$264,215
Grapes; Raisin, Table and Wine	117,575	229,642	177,990	165,382	211,321
Tomatoes	21,857	28,581	61,042	101,057	61,701
Cattle and Calves	58,635	71,576	72,332	81,075	81,372
Dairy Products	27,609	35,228	45,995	55,275	63,027
Melons	23,134	26,514	31,252	41,258	54,531
Poultry	20,858	40,930	37,269	47,259	56,370
Alfalfa	33,516	33,164	34,757	38,298	47,196
Barley	17,451	21,988	28,619	36,608	43,939
Sugar Beets	-	-	-	34,536	-
Plums	18,480	26,252	-	-	33,152
Oranges	-	-	27,798	-	-
Total Ten Leading	\$414,937	\$646,165	\$729,436	\$ 769,118	\$ 916,823
Total Agricultural Production	\$559,307	\$828,682	\$967,350	\$1,026,356	\$1,170,800
Percent Ten Leading of					
Total Production	74.2%	78.0%	75.4%	75.0%	78.3%

Source: Fresno County Department of Agriculture.

Fresno County, as reported in the 1974 Census of Agriculture, had 6,729 farms comprising 2,030,250 acres (302 acres/farm) in 1974 compared to 7,539 farms and 2,208,070 acres (293 acres/farm) in 1969. The total value of all farms in 1974 (including land and buildings) was \$1,780,109,000, averaging \$264,555 per farm, compared to respective 1969 values of \$1,293,859,000 and \$171,622. The tabulation below compares Fresno County farms for the years 1969 and 1974, as reported by the 1974 Census of Agriculture, for farms with sales of \$2,500 and over.

FRESNO COUNTY

Farms with Sales Over \$2,500

Item	1969	1974
Total Farms		
Number	6,127	5,809
Acres	2,156,918	1,993,044
Average Size ..	352 acres	343 acres
Value of land and buildings ..	\$1,238,731,000	\$1,716,765,000
Total Crop Land, acres	1,246,806	1,172,536
Total Irrigated Land, acres	1,033,439	1,108,451
Total Irrigation Water, acre ft. .	2,794,031	3,141,458
Estimated Market Value of all Machinery and Equipment	\$ 86,440,000	\$ 178,891,000
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold .	\$ 377,061,000	\$ 779,091,000
Farm Production Expenses	\$ 356,949,000	\$ 596,416,000

Source: 1974 Census of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Commerce.

The following tabulation shows Land in Orchards for 1969 and 1974 for farms with sales over \$2,500. The next following tabulation lists size of debts owed by farm operators in Fresno County in 1974.

FRESNO COUNTY

Land in Orchards ¹

	1969	1974
Total		
Farms	4,597	4,329
Acres	256,352	272,304
Irrigated Land		
Farms	4,348	4,094
Acres	247,856	258,032
Fertilized Land - Total		
Farms	4,320	2,785
Acres	227,169	195,968
Use of Dry Fertilizer		
Farms	2,438	45,180
Tons	3,835	48,964
Use of Liquid Fertilizer		
Farms	812	531
Tons	6,359	7,338

¹ For farms with sales over \$2,500.

Source: 1974 Census of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Commerce.

FRESNO COUNTY

Farm Debt 1974 ¹

	Total Operator Debt	Secured by Real Estate	Not Secured by Real Estate
Debt owed by farm operator			
Farms	2,636	2,342	996
Amount	\$288,137,000	\$188,101	\$100,035
Farms by size of debt owed			
Under \$5,000	263	215	236
\$ 5,000 to \$ 9,999	329	290	188
\$10,000 to \$29,999	811	773	260
\$30,000 to \$49,999	419	399	74
\$50,000 and over .	814	665	238

¹ Farms with sales \$2,500 and over.

Source: 1974 Census of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Growth Indicators

The following tabulation lists growth indicators in Fresno County since 1965. Between 1965 and 1976

the number of telephones more than doubled, postal receipts increased by more than two and one-half, and bank debits increased nearly five-fold.

FRESNO COUNTY

Growth Indicators

	1965	1970	1973	1976
Motor Vehicle Registration ¹	257,252	292,637	347,709	339,979
Air Passenger Traffic	212,620	479,194	683,933	882,975
Gas Meters	79,632	89,796	99,305	108,950
Electric Meters	86,441	97,422	107,401	118,317
Telephones	114,367	177,500	209,716	246,926
Bank Debits (in millions)	\$5,682	\$8,948	\$17,087	\$25,969
Postal Receipts (in millions)	\$5.27	\$6.93	\$19.19	\$13.68

¹ Figures shown for 1976 motor vehicle registration are not comparable to previous years due to a change in 1976 in the method of computing registrations.

Source: Fresno County and City Chamber of Commerce.

Utilities

Fresno County is served by the following utilities:

- Electricity: Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- Natural gas: Pacific Gas and Electric Company,
Southern California Gas Company
- Telephone: Pacific Telephone Company
- Water: City of Fresno, Fresno County Water-
works Districts, et al.

Transportation

Two major railroads, a modern system of highways and a growing airport complex have contributed to the industrial, commercial and residential growth of Fresno County. Santa Fe and Southern Pacific provide main line rail freight service to the area. Amtrak provides regularly scheduled passenger service daily. Fresno Air Terminal in the City of Fresno provides regularly scheduled passenger and air freight service to major metropolitan centers in the nation. Three major airlines — United, Hughes Airwest and PSA — serve the Fresno Air Terminal.

Approximately 10 interstate trucking firms, 11 local and regional carriers and 26 freight forwarders serve Fresno County and provide overnight delivery

to most major cities in California and daily direct interstate service. Motor passenger and parcel service is provided by Greyhound Bus Lines and Continental Trailways Bus Lines. California Highway 99 is a north-south artery which passes through the heart of Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley, connecting many of the Valley's major cities. Approximately fifty miles west of the City of Fresno, Interstate Highway 5 runs in a north-south direction in the western part of Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley. Both highways are major north-south routes between Los Angeles, San Francisco and Sacramento. State Highways 41, 168 and 180 serve the Fresno metropolitan area and connect it to the eastern and western parts of the County.

Port of Entry

The City of Fresno is an inland U.S. Port of Entry. At a port of entry, imported goods may be cleared locally by the Fresno Customs Director. This permits the importation of goods from foreign countries directly to the Fresno metropolitan area, permitting straight-through direct shipment from point of origin outside the United States to a final destination of Fresno.

Education

Public educational services in the County are provided by the Fresno County Department of Education. The service area of the Department includes 168 elementary schools, 17 junior high schools, 28 high schools, 3 community colleges and 10 special education sites. Special educational programs are operated for the physically handicapped, the mentally retarded, those with language and speech problems, and for children of migrant workers. Regional Occupational Programs serve all but one high school. This allows study in specialized occupations and moves students from school to school to take advantage of occupational facilities.

The Fresno Unified School District serves the City of Fresno and its suburban community. This District has 58,702 students and its facilities include 60 elementary schools (K through 6), 14 junior high schools (grades 7 through 9) and six high schools (grades 10 through 12). In addition, the District has four children's centers and 43 preschools, 3 schools for trainable mentally retarded children, one career high school, 119 special education classes including a new school for the severely physically handicapped, 30 schools with programs for gifted students and an adult education center.

Public school enrollment in Fresno County, including enrollment in the Fresno Unified School District, over a five year span is shown in the tabulation below.

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Enrollment Data

Type	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77
Elementary District	14,876	14,428	14,131	13,988	13,721
High School District	6,868	6,685	6,778	7,362	7,505
Unified School District					
Fresno City	60,046	59,900	58,626	62,817	62,070
Other	35,814	36,670	38,418	38,416	40,116
Community Colleges	11,926	11,972	14,120	15,549	14,393
Totals	129,390	129,655	128,473	138,132	137,805

Sources: Fresno County Department of Education; State Center and West Hills Community Colleges.

Fresno City College, a nationally-accredited community college established in 1910, is located on a 100-acre site and is the oldest two-year college in California. This college offers day, evening, weekend and summer classes. Programs are offered in more than 50 different occupational areas. Programs are also provided for students who later transfer to a four-year institution. Total enrollment in the spring of 1978 was 16,158 full and part-time, day and evening students.

California State University, Fresno occupies a 1,410 acre campus. The University is fully accredited and has the second highest number of nationally accredited departmental and professional programs among the 19 campuses of the California State University and Colleges system. The University has nearly doubled its size in the last ten years and now enrolls more than 15,000 students plus several thousand in the Continuing Education program. Students can choose from 86 undergraduated major fields and from 37 Master's degree programs.

Private schools in Fresno County provide parochial education from elementary school through the college level. The Catholic Diocese of Fresno maintains five elementary schools and one high school and are staffed by lay and religious instructors. The Lutheran Church operates one elementary school which enrolls about 120. The Fresno Adventist Academy has an enrollment of 420 (K through grade 8).

Pacific College is central California's only private, church-related senior college of the liberal arts and sciences. The College serves a multi-ethnic, interdenominational and international student body of over 539 undergraduates. Several thousand public school teachers are in-services each year through Pacific Colleges' In-Service Education program. Undergraduate programs are also offered in liberal arts, biblical and theological studies, teacher education, business administration, Contemporary Christian ministries and community/social services. A Master's program in Education is also offered.

San Joaquin College of Law, organized in 1969 is located on the campus of Pacific College and offers concurrent enrollment with Pacific College.

Other private colleges include the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, which has an enrollment of 100 and offers a Master of Arts program in biblical studies, theological historical studies and practical studies, and a Master of Divinity degree to prepare students for pastoral and missionary work. The West Coast Bible College has been incorporated as a non-profit institution in the State of California and offers Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts programs.

Recreation

The eastern portion of Fresno County lies in the Sierra Nevada mountains, where portions of Kings River Canyon, groves of giant sequoias and the

Huntington-Shaver Lakes area attract many tourists. The City of Fresno is the focal point of routes leading to the recreational areas of the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada. The City is less than two hour's drive from three national parks — Yosemite, Kings Canyon and Sequoia — and from the John Muir wilderness area, the largest wilderness area in California. Complete recreational facilities for boating, sailing, hunting, fishing, skiing, hiking, backpacking, camping and picnicking are available on the western slope. The foothills contain lakes and reservoirs where water sports are enjoyed such as Lake Miller-ton, Huntington Lake, Shaver Lake and the Pine Flat Reservoir. Snow skiing is available at Badger Pass, China Peak and Wolverton Ski Bowl, all within or adjacent to the County. The valley and foothill areas of the County offer golfing and game bird and deer hunting.

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